



May 2023 Newsletter



Election Results... Clinics... Permanent Courts update...and More!

Welcome New members!

BCPA has continued to welcome new members. Attendance is growing as well so that we are more frequently adopting the 4 on 4 off system. If you are not familiar please review the rotation rules on the club website. <http://burkepickleball.net/rules.html>.

Observations/Suggestions

- Confused about how to stack paddles? Here are the rules:
 - When you arrive, your paddle goes on the bottom of the pile of your choice.
 - When we have **6 or more players**, we split paddles into a W (win) pile and a L(loss) pile and rotate which pile plays next. **When a game ends, all four players are off and the next 4 paddles are on.** Place your paddle in the appropriate stack based on winning or losing your match. This facilitates mixing up players so you don't play the same 4 people every game.
 - When we have **9 or more players**, play games to 9 points.
- When more than one court finishes nearly simultaneously, please let the first court player rotate out and place their paddles in the stack before jumping into the fray. It is nearly impossible to keep up with whom is going where if people are grabbing paddles from both piles.
- We are regularly seeing 30-40 players even on weeknights so that we have 6 or even 8 courts busy. HOWEVER, please don't expect the first few players to arrive to set up nets for you. As you arrive please plan to help setup and clear off courts so that we have enough room for everyone.
- Please help by putting away a surplus net before you leave so that the last 4 players don't have to take down all the remaining nets.
- We hope you have a great time. Veterans and New Players alike: Remember to meet and greet all these new friends you have not met yet! A great strength of BCPA is that everyone tries to play with as many different players as they can. BCPA's number one rule is to keep play **Friendly and Fun!**
- If you are new, or it's been a while, review the USPA and BCPA local house rules. USPA changes rules every year so if has been a while you may have missed a rules update or two so feel free to ask.

Meet the BCPA Board

Everyone is eagerly awaiting the most suspenseful election results of the year: Who will be on the BCPA Board for 2023. Well the waiting is over and the results are in. Drum Roll Please!



BCPA President: Jon Weber. Jon is a looooong term resident of the Burke Conservancy and a founding member of BCPA. He has previously served as our Webmaster and as Interim President and has worked hard to keep BCPA running smoothly



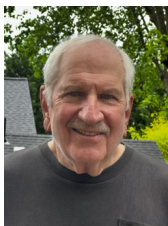
BCPA Treasurer: Mary Abney. Mary is also a long term resident of the Burke Conservancy and a founding member of BCPA. She is returning as Treasurer where she has served since the BCPA was founded in 2018. Her efforts have been tireless to keep us solvent and our insurance valid and our bills paid and... To list her as Treasurer only is faint praise since she has maintained many other duties over the past several years.



BCPA Secretary: Ed Verchot. Ed is also a founding member of the BCPA. He has lived in West Springfield for the past 30 years and discovered pickleball back in 2017...the rest is history. Ed took over as Secretary early in 2022 when the founding Secretary stepped down and is now serving another term.



BCPA Membership: Genevieve Methvin. Genevieve is a Burke Conservancy Resident who has played with us for the past several years. Genevieve has agreed to join the board as Membership Director this year. She will work closely with Mary to keep the rolls current and accurate and to greet new prospective members and help them as they decide whether to join us or not.



BCPA Member At Large-Strategy: Fred Rothe. Fred is a founding member of BCPA and long term resident of the Burke area. Fred served as the Membership Director since the board was founded and is now moving to assume the new portfolio to help us liaise with other clubs and develop strategic approaches to deal with the explosive growth of Pickleball and other new challenges of managing the club as the new courts come on line and we become challenged to keep our club from being overwhelmed by sheer numbers of new players.



BCPA Member At Large-Courts: John Simpson. John has been playing with BCPA for several years now and has agreed to step in and help with managing our growing bounty of nets, balls, paddles and so on as well as to represent the membership at large on the board. John has already accomplished a full inventory of equipment and helped us replace, repair and redistribute equipment so that we now have 8 good nets at both the Woods and the Landings.

If you are interested in a more detailed description of Board Duties please check the bylaws posted on BurkePickleball.net. The Board does everything needed to run the club.

Volunteers Wanted

We need volunteers to help with many activities throughout the year. For example Andy Forsyth frequently volunteers to teach clinics and run competitive leagues. From time to time, other members are needed to step in for clinics when Andy is on travel. We also need people to help run the competitive activities and encourage folks to complete their matches on time so we can schedule seasonal finals. We support the Burke Festival every year and we need all hands on deck to man booths. This is a required part of being a Burke Chartered Organization and being allowed to use Burke's courts. Other members have helped organize annual or semiannual non-playing social activities to give members a better opportunity to know their fellow members. If you have ideas or want to help, please email the Board at Burkepickleball@gmail.com to let them know you are available.

How Can I Improve My Pickleball? **Sign Up for a Beginner or**




Intermediate Clinic!

BCPA is offering Beginner Clinics on **Saturdays, April 13, April 22, May 27, and Jun 24 at 10:30 am** at the Landings. This clinic is for players **new** to Pickleball and will cover basic rules, scoring, ball striking, and strategy. Please let us know if you have a paddle or need to borrow one for the clinic (we have several loaners).

BCPA is offering Intermediate Clinics on **Saturdays at 9:30 am** at the Landings. These clinics will cover:

- ~~April 13 - Perfecting your Third Shot Drops, Strategies and Dinks.~~
- April 22 - How to Practice your Pickleball shots, ie Drills.
- May 27 - How to Defend the Attack and How to make your shots Unattackable
- June 24 - 10 Mistakes Intermediate Players Make and How to Correct Them

We now using  **SignUpGenius** [to register](#) for these clinics. Currently we are limiting clinics to eight (8) participants.

If there is interest we may try to schedule additional clinics in the Fall. Plans are underway for a competitive ladder for June, July, and August culminating with finals in September and If there is interest and volunteer help to run it. Let the Board or Andy Forsyth know if you are interested and if you can help with the record keeping and encouraging the players to get matches completed.

Playtime Scheduler Update!

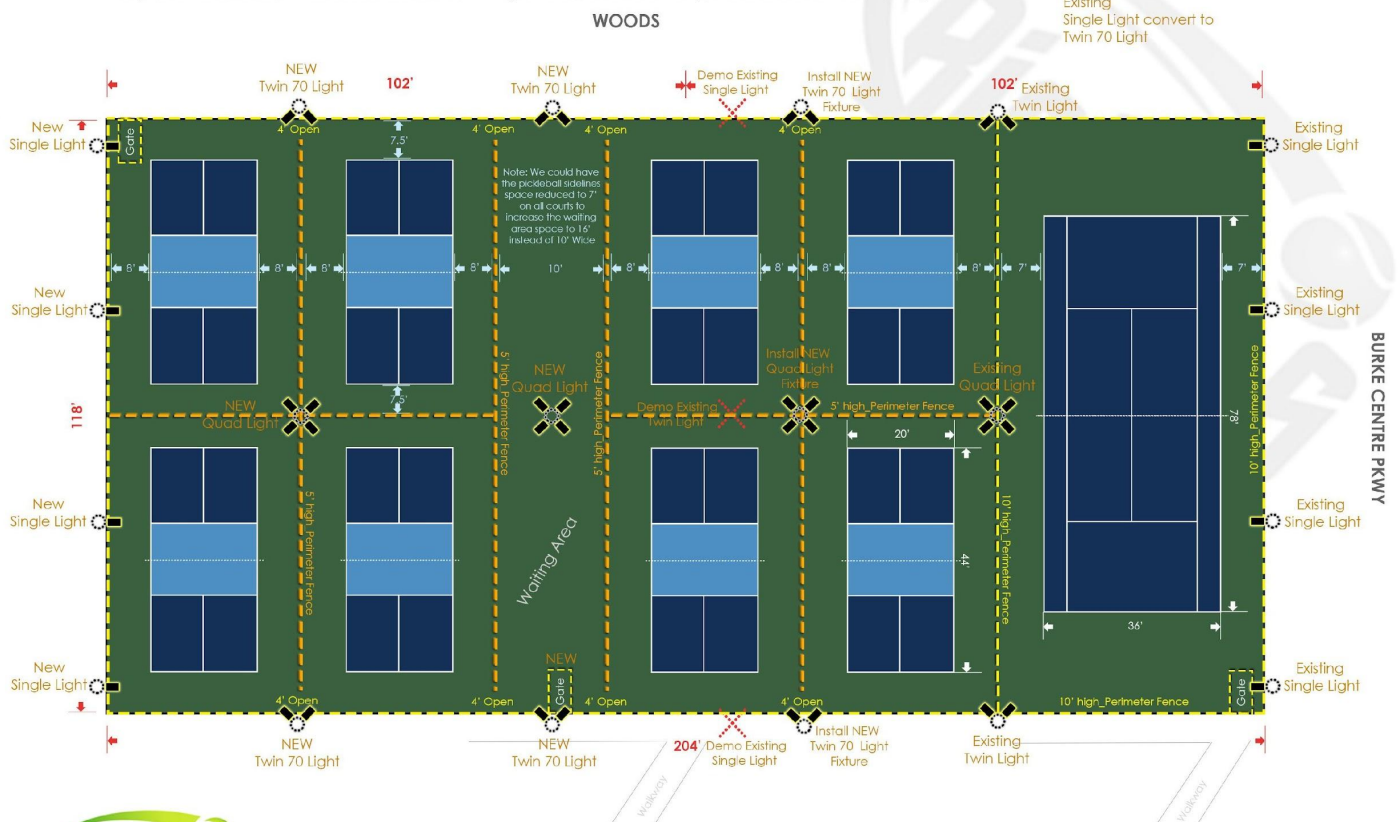
BCPA uses Playtime Scheduler to communicate play sessions to our members. Although its use is optional, if you sign up you will receive about 4 invitations per week that will let you know we are planning to play, the time, weather concerns and sometimes an interesting news tidbit that has come up. If you sign up, your fellow members will know you are coming and if everyone uses it roughly how many are coming. YOU DON'T HAVE TO USE IT NOR DO YOU HAVE TO SIGN UP TO ATTEND. We have 74 members receiving invitations weekly out of over 100 Members. If you are not getting invitations and news blasts from us on Playtime Scheduler and want to, the News tab on [Burke Pickleball](#) has downloadable instructions on how to register with Scheduler and become added to the invitee list, and how to use it.



Burke Permanent Courts Update

The Burke Conservancy staff has continued to gather comments and bids from contractors to improve the Landings facility and convert it into a First Class Pickleball & Tennis facility with 8 permanent lighted pickleball courts and 1 lighted tennis court. This project will include improvements in the surface to prevent cracking and durability, permanent nets, and improved lighting for all the courts. Divider fences and an additional gate are in the plans as well. Exact features are of course subject to costs and decisions remain to be finalized. Caution: A

Burke Conservancy Landings Community Center 6001 Cove Landing Road, Burke, VA 22015
New pickleball courts layout_Blue and Green colors with Light Blue kitchens
Fence installation_All pickleball courts will be separated by 5' high divider fence with 4' wide openings.
The perimeter fence, and divider fence between single tennis and first set of pickleball courts will be 10' High.



possible layout is as follows but nothing is signed and there are other bidders so plans may be adjusted before the contract is let.

It should be a beautiful facility once it's complete. When work begins BCPA plans to shift play to the Woods until the complex reopens. Although BCPA is not managing this effort the Conservancy has engaged our Board as partner/consultants in advising on the details to be included. The Board will try to keep you advised on the progress and schedule for this but please be patient.

Lost and Found?

We still have a steady stream of clothing, jackets, gloves, scarfs, and sometimes water bottles or even paddles on the courts after play. When found if the items are not marked, we stash them in the equipment box at whichever court they were found on. Please check the boxes when you attend next because we are reaching capacity and will be donating or disposing of these clothing items soon.

Get a Discount on Merchandise with Pickleball Central Club Rewards Program

BCPA's participation in Pickleball Central's Club Rewards program gives you a 5% discount and provides a donation to our "Club Fund " that can be used when we buy balls, nets, or loaner paddles for example. The code to get the discount and donation is **CRBURKE** in case you have lost or never received the code. We saved a ton of \$\$s on our replacement nets and balls due to the credits we had built up so please use the code if you order from Pickleball Central.